

Washington, DC – Today, Rep. Linda Sánchez announced two grant awards to Rio Hondo College for a total of \$475,505 from the Department of Education's Student Support Services Program. The funds will provide academic and other support services to low-income, first-generation, or disabled college students.

"I'm happy Rio Hondo College and its students will benefit from these grants, which will better prepare them for future careers," said Rep. Linda Sánchez. **"When college students get a little extra support both inside and outside the classroom, their potential is limitless."**

The first grant will be in the amount of \$220,000.00 for the period 09/01/2010 through 08/31/2011 and the second grant will be in the amount of \$255,505.00 for the same period. Rio Hondo College may use the grants for instruction in basic study skills, tutorial services, academic, financial or personal counseling, career guidance, grant aid, and to provide assistance to students seeking admission and financial aid at four-year institutions, graduate, and professional programs.

"On behalf of Rio Hondo College students who will be the beneficiaries of programs and services we will provide through the resources of the Student Support Services Grants, it is my pleasure to acknowledge the leadership and initiative of Dr. Zolita Fisher and Dr. Gisela Spieler-Persad in these efforts," said Dr. Ted Martinez., Jr., Superintendent/President of Rio Hondo College. **"I express my thanks, and that of the Rio Hondo College Governing Board, to the Office of Congresswoman Sánchez for assistance in securing such vital funding in these difficult times. It is truly rewarding to be able to enrich our curriculum and services."**

Rio Hondo's Student Support Services Program will target current and newly admitted students with academic need who are low-income, first-generation college attendees, and disabled.

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